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FOR

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PROGRAM

Today Show

DATE

August 23, 1966 - 7:00

INTERVIEW AUTHOR OF BOOK 'RUSH TO JUDGMENT'

HUGH DOWNS: "Almost two years ago, on September 27th, 1964, the report of the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy was published 10 months after the assassination. And the findings of the commission confirmed to the satisfaction of most American citizens, what most Americans had already decided, that Lee Harvey Oswald alone, had shot and killed the President, that Lee Harvey Oswald alone had murdered Officer J. D. Tippett, and that Jack Ruby, alone, although witnessed by millions on television, which was unique in the history of murder, had murdered Lee Harvey Oswald.

"Well, the Commission found no suggestion of any conspiracy in linking these three murders. The Warren Commission Report, published in a seemingly exhaustive 880 page report, was later put out in 26 volumes, was accepted by most of its severest critics as giving more than substantial support to its principle findings.

"Well, this summer there have been several books appearing two years after the report, that take harsh issue with both the evidence and the conclusions of the Report. And this morning we want to examine what is, perhaps, the most detailed assault yet on the Commission's findings.

"The book is called 'Rush To Judgment.' It's written by a man named Mark Lane, you're going to hear a little later on the program. He was retained by Lee Harvey Oswald's mother as an attorney for the defense, for her deceased son's interest before the Commission. And later in the hour, Mr. Lane and a member of the Warren Commission legal council will discuss this critique of the Commission. For the rest of this half hour, we want to present some of the more disturbing issues that are raised by the book.

"For example, where did the shot come from that murdered Presi-